

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kenji SASAKI et al.

Confirmation No: 5026

Appl. No. : 10/539,756  
(National Stage of PCT/JP2003/016362)

Group Art Unit: 1615

I. A. Filed : December 19, 2003

Examiner: Anne M. Gussow

For : METHOD FOR PROTECTING THIOL GROUP OF PROTEIN

**ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Recordation Services  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

This is in response to the requirement for restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 and § 372 mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on December 12, 2007. Inasmuch as the one-month shortened statutory period for reply is set in the Office Action to expire on January 14, 2008 (January 12, 2008 being a Saturday), this response is being filed by the initial due date for response. However, if any extension of time is necessary, this is an express request for any necessary extension of time and authorization to charge any required extension of time fee or any other fees which may be required to preserve the pendency of the present application to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.